



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO TOP EXECUTIVES OF ST. JOSEPH AUTO PARTS WHOLESALE SENTENCED FOR MAIL FRAUD CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two top executives of a St. Joseph area auto parts wholesale company were sentenced today after being convicted by a federal trial jury last year on charges related to the fraudulent sale of franchised auto parts distributorships.

James L. Parker, 53, of St. Joseph, was sentenced this morning by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs to 4 years and three months in prison without parole. The court also ordered **Parker** to pay restitution in the amount of \$704,720. **Parker** is the owner, president and chief executive officer of F.C.I. Marketing, Inc., (F.C.I.), located at 18872 N. Highway 169 near St. Joseph in Andrew County.

Lyle D. Perry, 54, also of St. Joseph, was sentenced this morning by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs to three years of probation. The court also ordered **Perry** to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,000. **Perry** is a former vice president of F.C.I.

On September 6, 2001, **Parker** and **Perry** were found guilty on all charges by a federal jury. **Parker** was convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud, seven counts of mail fraud and 11 counts of money laundering. **Perry** was convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and four counts of mail fraud.

According to Graves, evidence produced at trial showed that **Parker** and **Perry** conspired from May 1993 to August 1997 to convince others to invest in the purchase of "exclusive" franchised distributorships of after-market automobile parts and accessories from F.C.I. To do so, Graves explained, the defendants knowingly made false statements and claims to potential investors regarding the potential profitability of the distributorships and their actual methods of operations.

Parker and **Perry** either mailed or caused the mailings of various letters, documents and checks between Missouri and other states in furtherance of the scheme, Graves said, and **Parker** engaged in money laundering through his issuance of various F.C.I. bank checks that represented the proceeds of fraudulent activity.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Curt Bohling and Marietta Parker, who is currently Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Kansas. It was investigated by the FBI.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow